

Claims:

1. A method for manufacturing disposable sanitary napkins intended to be worn in undergarments of users, each sanitary napkin having a main body that comprises an absorbent system, the main body including a pair of mutually opposite sides and at least one flap projecting from one of said mutually opposite sides, said method comprising:
 - a) providing a continuous web having a longitudinal axis and at least two superposed layers;
 - b) bonding said superposed layers to form an area of juncture on said continuous web, said area of juncture defining a cyclic pattern and extending along said longitudinal axis;
 - c) severing said continuous web within said area of juncture to form two strips, each strip having:
 - i) a plurality of projecting portions in a spaced apart relationship;
 - ii) at least one attachment portion between each of said projecting portions that unite said projecting portions to one another;
 - d) providing a succession of absorbent systems;
 - e) advancing at least one of said strips and said succession of absorbent systems along respective paths that converge toward one another;
 - f) securing respective projecting portions of said one strip to respective absorbent systems of said succession;
 - g) cutting transversally said at least one strip between absorbent systems of said succession to sever the attachment portions between the projecting portions of said one strip.
2. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said main body is a multi-layer structure.
3. A method as described in claim 2, wherein said main body includes a fluid-pervious layer overlying said absorbent system, said fluid-pervious layer being oriented toward the user when the disposable sanitary napkin is in use.

4. A method as defined in claim 3, wherein said main body further includes a liquid-impervious layer underlying said absorbent system, said liquid-impervious layer being oriented toward the undergarment of the user when the disposable sanitary napkin is in use.

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5. A method as defined in claim 3, wherein said projection portions of said at least one strip are secured to said fluid-pervious layer.

6. A method as defined in claim 4, wherein said projection portions of said at least one strip are secured to said liquid-impervious layer.

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7. A method as defined in claim 4, wherein said projecting portions of said one strip are secured to said fluid-pervious layer and said liquid-impervious layer.

8. A method as defined in claim 1, further comprising applying adhesive fasteners before the severing of said continuous web.

9. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said projecting portions of said two strips are secured to respective absorbent systems of said succession.

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10. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said plurality of projection portions are transversely projecting.

11. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the securing is performed such that one absorbent body is secured in association a projecting portion from each of said strips formed from said continuous web.

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12. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said two strips are first and second strips, said method further comprising:

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- providing a third strip, said third strip having a plurality of projecting portions in a spaced apart relationship and at least one attachment

portion between each of said projecting portions that unite said projecting portions to one another; and

- securing the projecting portions of said third strip to respective absorbent systems of said succession before the cutting such that the projecting portions of said third strip at least partially overlap the projecting portions of either one of said first and second strips.

13. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein said two strips are first and second strips, said method further comprising:

- providing a third strip, said third strip having a plurality of projecting portions in a spaced apart relationship and at least one attachment portion between each of said projecting portions that unite said projecting portions to one another;
- securing the projecting portions of said third strip to respective absorbent systems of said succession before the cutting such that the projecting portions of said third strip are spaced apart from the projecting portions of either one of said first and second strips.

14. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the layers of said continuous web are of substantially identical widths.

15. A method as defined in claim 1, wherein the layers of said continuous web are of substantially differing widths.

16. A disposable sanitary napkin intended to be worn in the undergarment of a user, said sanitary napkin comprising;

a) a main body having:

- i) a longitudinal axis;
- ii) a transverse axis;
- iii) first and second longitudinal sides extending along said longitudinal axis;

iv) first and second transverse sides extending along said transverse axis;

b) at least one flap being discrete from said main body and including:

5 i) an attachment portion secured to said main body, said attachment portion extending along said longitudinal axis, said attachment portion including a first end zone and a second end zone, said first end zone being coextensive with at least a portion of said first transverse side, said second end zone being coextensive with at least a portion of said second transverse side;

10 ii) a projecting portion that extends from said attachment portion, in use said projecting portion projects laterally from said first longitudinal side, said projecting portion having a periphery;

15 iii) said attachment portion and said projection portion having at least two layers, said at least two layers being bonded to one another to form a first seal that extends along at least a portion of the periphery of said projecting portion.

20 17. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 16, wherein said main body is a multi-layer structure.

18. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 17, wherein said main body includes a fluid-pervious layer that is oriented toward the user when said disposable
25 sanitary napkin is in use.

19. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 18, wherein said main body further includes an absorbent system underlying said fluid-pervious layer.

30 20. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 19, wherein said absorbent system is a multi-layer structure.

21. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 19, wherein said main body further includes a liquid-impervious layer underlying said absorbent system, said liquid-impervious layer being oriented toward the undergarment of the user when said disposable sanitary napkin is in use.

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22. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 21, wherein said attachment portion is secured to said liquid-impervious layer.

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23. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 18, wherein said attachment portion is secured to said fluid-pervious layer.

24. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 21, wherein said attachment portion is secured to said fluid-pervious layer and said liquid-impervious layer.

15 25. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 16, wherein said at least one flap is a first flap, said sanitary napkin further comprising:

a) a second flap, said second flap being discrete from main body and including:

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i) an attachment portion secured to said main body, the attachment portion of said second flap extending along said longitudinal axis, the attachment portion of said second flap including a first end zone and a second end zone, the first end zone of said second flap being coextensive with at least a portion of said first transverse side, the second end zone of said second flap being coextensive with at least a portion of said second transverse side;

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ii) a projecting portion that extends from the attachment portion of said second flap, in use the projecting portion of said second flap projecting from said first longitudinal side.

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26. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 25, wherein said projecting portion of said second flap and said projection portion of said first flap partially overlap one another.

- 5 25. A disposable sanitary napkin as defined in claim 25, wherein said projecting portion of said second flap and said projecting portion of said first flap are spaced from one another.